

The Davis Homestead
Davis Mill Road, Cumberland County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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The Davis Homestead
Davis Mill Road, Cumberland County, New Jersey

Owner: Mr. Arthur M. Davis

Date of Erection: 1816

Architect: Ebenezer Hitchener

Builder: Richard Seeley

Present Condition: Excellent

Number of Stories: Two and one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - brick
under kitchen stone
Basement walls - hardburned
common bricks laid up in shell
line; cellar floor - brick

Exterior walls - brick

Inside chimneys

Interior walls - plaster

Floors - random width long
leaf pine

Fireplaces are ornate with
mahogany shelves

Roof - pitch, wood shingles

Historical Data:

The house was built by Richard Seeley, a
miller by trade but a man of apparent good taste.
On the west elevation, a white marble plaque bears

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the date 1816.

Mr. Seeley employed an architect by the name of Hitchener who came from England to assist him with the interior finishing.

On the north elevation there is a door without a platform. This was frequent in Colonial homes since many people traveled by horseback and the women could step from the saddle dry shod. The fireplaces are very ornate; the shelves are mahogany; the bed moulds and architrave are enriched with carved mouldings. The fireplace in the southwest living room has a frieze festooned with flowers and on the center panel is represented Perry's victory on Lake Erie.

Bibliography:

Field Books of Survey and information
from owner

Walter Christ
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
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District Officer

Rw. Dec. 1. 36 T.W.